



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: DRE-0111  
Inventors: El-Raghy and Barsoum  
Serial No.: 10/666,639  
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Examiner: Daniels, Matthew J.  
Customer No.: 26259  
Group Art Unit: 1732  
Confirmation No.: 8968  
Title: Max Phase Glove Formers

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Declaration by Tamer El-Raghy

I, Tamer El-Raghy hereby declare:

1. I am a co-inventor of the above-referenced patent application. My participation in the conception and reduction to practice of the invention in the above-referenced patent application occurred during my employment at Drexel University. I have assigned my rights in this invention to Drexel University.

2. I am familiar with the teachings of PCT Application PCT/US02/40113 entitled "Carbide and Nitride Ternary Ceramic Glove and Condom Formers" filed by Applicant Ansell Healthcare Products, Inc. on December 16, 2002 and claiming priority to U.S.

Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/341,892, filed December 18, 2001. In June of 1999, while employed at Drexel University, I became involved in a research project between Ansell Healthcare Products and Drexel University, which in June of 2000 was extended into a Sponsored Research Agreement, to develop ceramic slip casting and former coatings for glove and condom mandrels.

3. Attached hereto is correspondence between myself and Stanley J. Gromelski of Ansell Healthcare Products, Inc. Stanley J. Gromelski is listed as an inventor on PCT/US02/40113. This correspondence all occurred prior to the December 18, 2001 priority date of PCT/US02/40113.

4. Prior to June of 1999, Dr. Richard Knight of Drexel University and Dr. Stanley Gromelski of Ansell Healthcare Products, Inc. were working on methods of thermal spraying formers with several materials including  $Ti_3SiC_2$ . Attached hereto as Exhibit A is an e-mail dated June 16, 1999 from Dr. Richard Knight of Drexel University to Dr. Barsoum and myself containing a draft e-mail message to Dr. Stanley Gromelski which provided a summary the XRD analysis Dr. Barsoum and I performed on thermally sprayed samples and the suggestion to Dr. Stanley Gromelski to test an alternative purer source of  $Ti_3SiC_2$  available from Dr. Barsoum's laboratory. Thus, it was scientists of Drexel University who first proposed to Dr.

Gromelski to test bulk ternary ceramic  $Ti_3SiC_2$  in Ansell's KOH accelerated test cycle to determine whether purer starting material would resolve problems with respect to the dissolution of coatings from underlying ceramic coatings.

5. Attached hereto as Exhibit B is an e-mail message from me to Dr. Stanley Gromelski dated August 26, 1999 outlining the idea that since the bulk sample of  $Ti_3SiC_2$  passed the KOH test performed by Ansell Healthcare Products, smaller samples in the shape of condoms, for example, could be tested.

6. Attached hereto as Exhibit C is an e-mail message dated August 27, 1999 from Dr. Gromelski of Ansell Healthcare Products to me specifically acknowledging that he would like to proceed with our "idea".

7. Attached hereto as Exhibit D is a further e-mail message dated September 13, 1999 from Dr. Gromelski to me specifically requested in writing from me, details to slip-cast a glove former of this material including temperature needed for fire molding and any other special conditions needed to handle the material.

8. Attached hereto as Exhibit E is my reply, also dated September 13, 1999 providing the requested details in writing to Dr. Gromelski. Such details, for example, the temperature range of 1400-1600 are taught in PCT/US02/40113, as well. See e.g. page 5, lines 16-18 and lines 30-32.

9. Attached hereto as Exhibit F is a series of e-mail exchanges from February 2000 between me and Dr. Gromelski relating to the performance of the bulk  $Ti_3SiC_2$  material as a former.

10. Attached hereto as Exhibit G is my e-mail message dated February 18, 2000 wherein I proposed in writing that a provisional patent application, jointly owned by Drexel University and Ansell Healthcare Products, Inc. (then known as Ansell Perry) be pursued.

11. Attached hereto as Exhibit H is Dr. Gromelski's positive acknowledgment back to me dated February 22, 2000 stating that Ansell would be agreeable to pursuing a joint application for patent and was interested in slip casting the material to mold a glove-condom former.

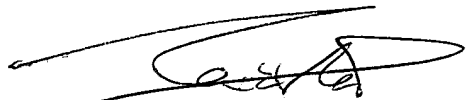
12. Attached hereto as Exhibit I is my response to Dr. Gromelski dated February 22, 2000 that we would have to develop the know-how to slip cast this material but in the meantime we could test some sintered solid materials.

13. At that time Drexel University entered into a Sponsored Research Agreement with Ansell and Dr. Barsoum and I proceeded to develop a slip-casted glove former which was tested by Ansell in its KOH accelerated test cycle.

14. Attached as Exhibit J are e-mails from Dr. Gromelski to me dated August 2, 2001 and August 16, 2001 reporting that

accelerated ageing of the subject slip-cast glove former was progressing well and requesting costing information of the material and processing, and requesting technical literature on the ceramic, how it is produced and its typical uses, respectively.

*I hereby declare that all statements herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information or belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or by imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing there upon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.*



Dr. Tamer El-Raghy

Feb. 10/05

Date